

REMARKS**I. Introduction**

In the Current Action:

Claims 22–30 are allowed;

Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph;

Claim 31 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph; and

Claims 1, 3-10, 12–14, and 16–20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

In this response:

Claims 12, 30, and 31 are amended; and

All outstanding rejections are traversed.

The Applicant notes with gratitude that claims 22–30 are allowed. In this response, the Applicant has amended claim 31, and has amended claims 12 and 30 to correct typographical errors. No new matter has been added. Claims 1, 3–10, 12–14, 16–20, and 22–31 remain pending, and in light of the arguments below, the Applicant respectfully asks the Examiner to withdraw the outstanding rejections.

II. Rejections Based on 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Applicant respectfully asserts that the amendments to claims 12 and 31 fully address the § 112 rejections of the Current Action, and respectfully ask the Examiner to withdraw both rejections.

III. Rejections Based on 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Current Action rejects claims 1, 3–10, 12–14, 16–20 as obvious. The remarks contained in the response dated February 2, 2004 (Paper No. 5) (hereinafter “Previous Response”) remain applicable to the outstanding rejections, and the entire Previous Response is incorporated by reference herein. However, for the sake of brevity, only some of the arguments will be repeated.

Claim 1 is rejected as obvious in light of a combination of Mutze, DE4100400 A1 (hereinafter *Mutze*), and Kawamoto et al., U. S. Patent No. 5,920,063 (hereinafter

Kawamoto). As the Previous Response demonstrated, however, the combination of *Mutze*, and *Kawamoto* do not establish a *prima facie* case for rejecting claim 1, because this combination, among other things, does not teach or suggest all of that claim's limitations.

Claim 1 recites "a plurality of high resolution sensor arrays ... moved through only portions of said second dimension." The Examiner has conceded that *Mutze* does not teach this limitation, but in the Current Action contends that *Kawamoto* does. In support, the Examiner provides an example purportedly gleaned from the teachings of *Kawamoto* and consisting of two arrays scanning alternating lines. The Current Action then opines that an array scanning lines 1, 3, and 5 traverses a "portion of the second dimension." See Current Action pages 2-3. However, the Examiner's example is based on a misreading of *Kawamoto* and a misapplication of its teachings. In the Examiner's example, lines 1, 3, and 5 lie at a right angle to the image frame's first dimension and along the entire length of the image frame's second dimension. Thus, any array arranged to scan lines 1, 3, and 5 would be forced to move through the entire second dimension, because moving through only a portion of the second dimension would leave a portion of lines 1, 3, and 5 un-scanned. Therefore, *Kawamoto* does not teach "a plurality of high resolution sensor arrays ... moved through only portions of said second dimension," and the combination of *Mutze* and *Kawamoto* can not establish a *prima facie* case for rejecting claim 1. The Applicant respectfully asks the Examiner to withdraw this rejection.

The Current Action rejects claim 12 as obvious in light of *Mutze* and *Kawamoto*. However, as the Previous Response demonstrated, this combination can not make a *prima facie* case for rejecting claim 12 either, because *Mutze* and *Kawamoto* do not teach or suggest all of that claim's limitations. Claim 12 recites "moving each sensor array . . . through a portion of the second dimension of the image plane, wherein each sensor array traverses a portion of the image plane exclusive of at least one other sensor array." The Examiner has conceded that *Mutze* does not teach this limitation, but uses the same example to opine that *Kawamoto* does. However, arrays arranged as the Examiner suggests would not move "through a portion of the second dimension of the image plane, wherein each sensor array traverses a portion of the image plane exclusive of at least one other sensor array." To the contrary, while the arrays arranged as the Examiner suggests appear to scan different lines, both would be forced to move through the entire second dimension of the image plane. Therefore, *Kawamoto* does not teach or suggests "moving each sensor array . . . through a

portion of the second dimension of the image plane, wherein each sensor array traverses a portion of the image plane exclusive of at least one other sensor array,” and the combination of *Mutze* and *Kawamoto* can not establish a prima facie case for rejecting claim 12. The Applicant respectfully asks the Examiner to withdraw this rejection.

Claims 3–10, depend either directly or indirectly from claim 1, and claims 13, 14, and 16–20 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 12. Although each of these claims recites limitations that make them patentable in their own right, they are least patentable for depending from a patentable base claim. Thus, the Applicant respectfully asks the Examiner to withdraw the rejections to claims 3–10, 13, 14, and 16–20 as well.

IV. Summary

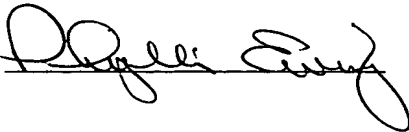
In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

The Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due please charge Deposit Account No. 08-2025, under Order No. 10980689-1 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV482735205US, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Date of Deposit: July 12, 2004

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